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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Note verbale dated 28 October 1994 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to request him to have circulated to the members of the First Committee, as an information document, under agenda item 62, the Declaration issued at the end of the International Conference on the Latin American Point of View on the Extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held at Córdoba, Argentina, from 21 to 24 October 1994. To that end, the English and Spanish versions of the document are attached hereto.

Annex

[Original: English and Spanish]

Declaration made on 24 October 1994 at the International Conference on the Latin American Point of View on the Extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

An International Conference on the Latin American Point of View on the Extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was held from 21 to 24 October 1994 at Villa Gardino, Córdoba, Argentina, with participants from Canada, Germany, Italy and the United States of America, as well as members from Latin American Physics Associations.

On the basis of the discussions that took place in this Conference, the representatives of the Latin American Physics Society listed below unanimously declare that:

"We scientists have the responsibility of expressing ourselves on items on which we have specific knowledge.

"Our competence to express our opinion on the subject of nuclear non-proliferation stems in addition from the achievement of the bilateral agreement between Argentina and Brazil and from the completion of the Tlatelolco Treaty. This is the first non-discriminatory treaty liberating a populated region of the world from all aspects of nuclear weapons. The Treaty and bilateral agreement are examples for every country and may start a process leading to the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones all over the world.

"We acknowledge the role played by Mexican diplomacy in the improvement of the non-proliferation Treaty and the leadership of Mexico among the non-aligned countries in the efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons.

"It is our unanimous opinion that our final goal is a world completely free of nuclear weapons.

"We have concluded that an essential first step should be the signature of a treaty on a comprehensive ban on nuclear tests prior to the opening of the 1995 non-proliferation Treaty Review and Extension Conference.

"We are agreed that the nuclear-weapon States should announce their intention to eliminate such weapons according to a fixed timetable. We ask for concrete declarations of intention at the opening of the 1995 Conference covering the following points:

"1. The cessation of the production of nuclear weapons and a drastic acceleration in the reduction of existent nuclear arsenals.

"2. The cut-off of fissile materials' production for use in nuclear weapons at a fixed date, and the elimination of their existing stockpiles.

"3. Guarantees from the nuclear-weapon States not to attack or threaten to attack the non-nuclear-weapon countries with nuclear weapons.

"4. An agreement on non-first-use of nuclear weapons by the nuclear-weapon States.

"We recommend that the non-proliferation Treaty be extended for one or more renewable fixed periods linked to the achievement of specific measures of nuclear disarmament which should culminate in the total elimination of nuclear weapons in the world. We oppose the indefinite extension of the non-proliferation Treaty because it would imply the permanent retention of nuclear arms by their possessors and the continuation of the discriminatory aspects of the Treaty.

"The nuclear-weapon States should declare a moratorium on all nuclear tests pending the entry into force of a comprehensive test-ban Treaty which is presently being negotiated.

"Finally, we recommend a more comprehensive agreement which should also cover the civil use of weapon-grade fissile material, specifically plutonium, highly enriched uranium and tritium, as well as the banning of peaceful nuclear explosions.

(Signed)

Néstor Gaggioli - Asociación Física Argentina
Luis Masperi - Asociación Física Argentina
Daniel Bes - Asociación Física Argentina
Wilfredo Tavera - Sociedad Boliviana de Física
Fernando de Souza Barros - Sociedade Brasileira de Fisica
María Elena Montero Cabrera - Sociedad Cubana de Física
Leopoldo Esquivel - Asociación Costarricense de Física
Marco A. Zúñiga - Sociedad Hondureña de Física
José L. Morán López - Sociedad Mexicana de Física
Modesto Montoya - Sociedad Peruana de Física
Arturo Lezama - Sociedad Uruguaya de Física
Fernando González Jiménez - Sociedad Venezolana de Física"